

Water and Climate Update

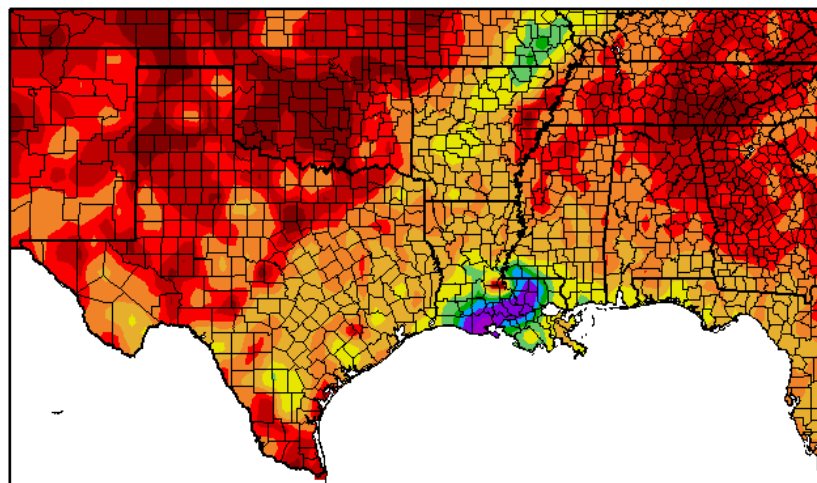
August 18, 2016

The Natural Resources Conservation Service produces this weekly report using data and products from the [National Water and Climate Center](#) and other agencies. The report focuses on seasonal snowpack, precipitation, temperature, and drought conditions in the U.S.

Precipitation	2	Other Climatic and Water Supply Indicators	9
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Historic flooding in Louisiana to continue with more rain forecast

Precipitation (in)
8/10/2016 – 8/16/2016



Generated 8/17/2016 at HPRCC using provisional data.
The Current Climate Summary Maps are produced daily using data from the Applied Climate Information System (ACIS).
Stations used are from the National Weather Service Cooperative Observer Network (COOP), and the Automated Weather Data Network (AWDN). All near-real-time data are considered preliminary and should be used responsibly.
Normal refers to the 1981-2010 Climate Normal for the selected product.



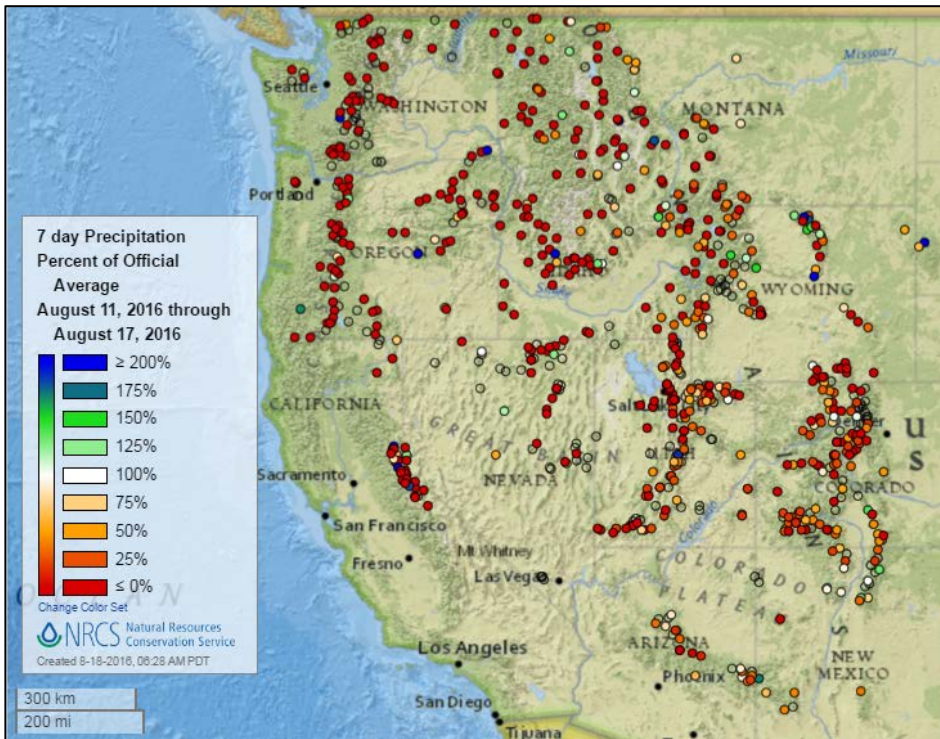
A Federal Disaster Declaration was announced this week as a result of historic flooding across a large region of Louisiana. Rainfall totals of over 16 inches were recorded in the southern part of the state. News reports 40,000 homes damaged, 30,000 people rescued, 8,400 people in shelters, and 13 deaths. More rain is forecast for the region with additional flooding expected.

Related News:

['It Turns Your Heart Upside Down': Flooding Crisis in Louisiana Far From Over](#)
[Louisiana flooding is the country's 'worst natural disaster' since Hurricane Sandy, Red Cross says](#)
[Before and After Photos of the Damage from Historic Flooding in Louisiana](#)
[Louisiana Flooding: Volunteers Descend on Stricken State to Assist Relief Efforts](#)

Precipitation

Last 7 Days, Western Mountain Sites (NRCS SNOTEL Network)

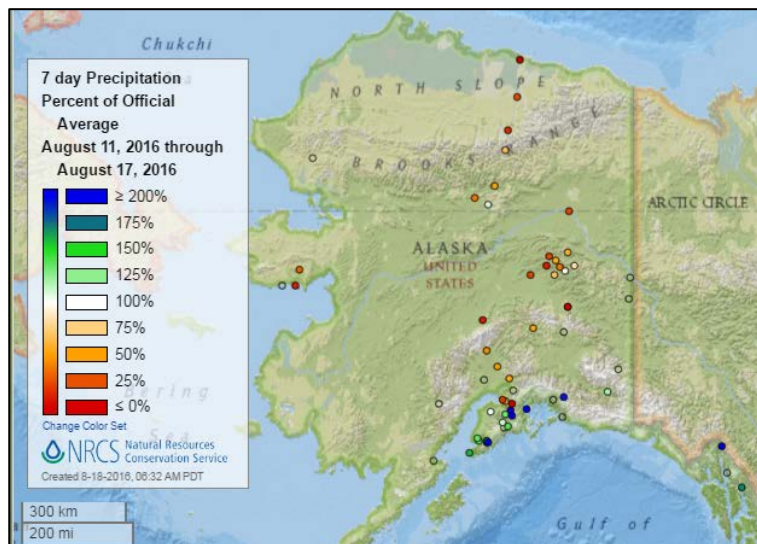


[7-day precipitation percent of average map](#)

See also: [7-day total precipitation values \(inches\) map](#)

[Alaska 7-day precipitation percent of average map](#)

See also: [Alaska 7-day total precipitation values \(inches\) map](#)



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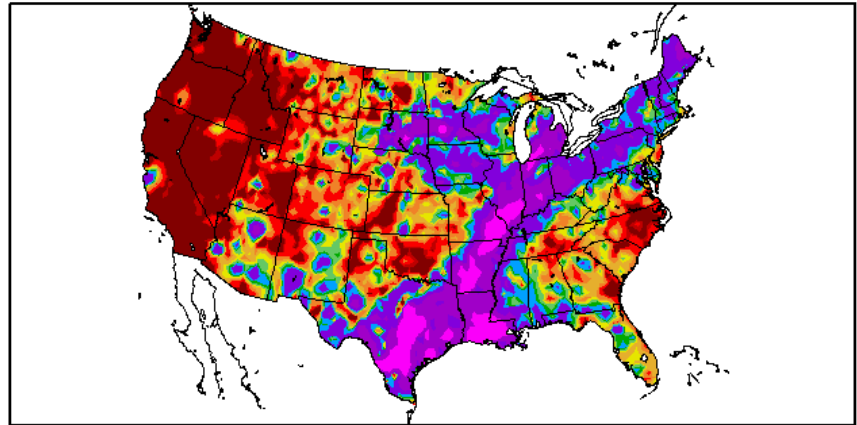
Last 7 Days, National Weather Service (NWS) Networks

Source: Regional Climate Centers

[7-day precipitation percent of normal map](#) for the continental U.S.

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)
8/11/2016 – 8/17/2016

See also: [7-day total precipitation values \(inches\) map](#)



Generated 8/18/2016 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Regional Climate Centers

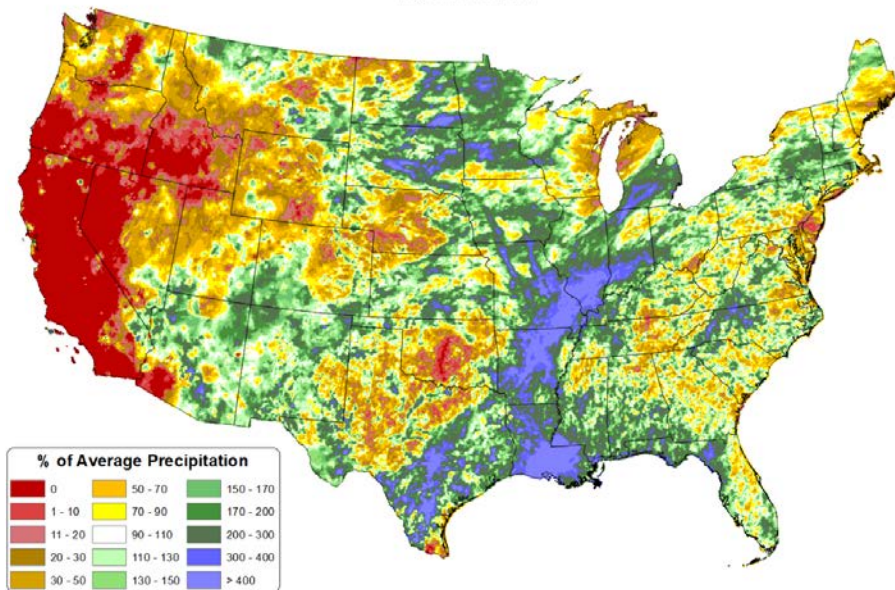
Month-to-Date, All Available Data Including SNOTEL and NWS Networks

Source: PRISM

Total Precipitation Anomaly: 01 August 2016 - 16 August 2016
Period ending 7 AM EST 16 Aug 2016
Base period: 1981-2010
(Map created 17 Aug 2016)

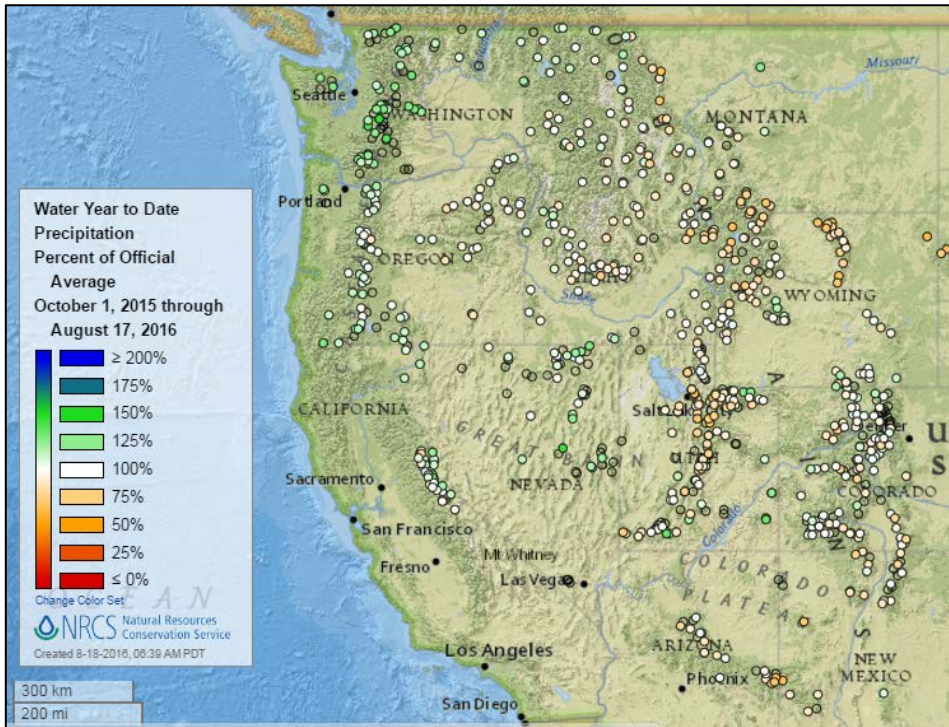
[Month-to-date national precipitation percent of average map](#)

See also: [Month-to-date national total precipitation values \(inches\) map](#)



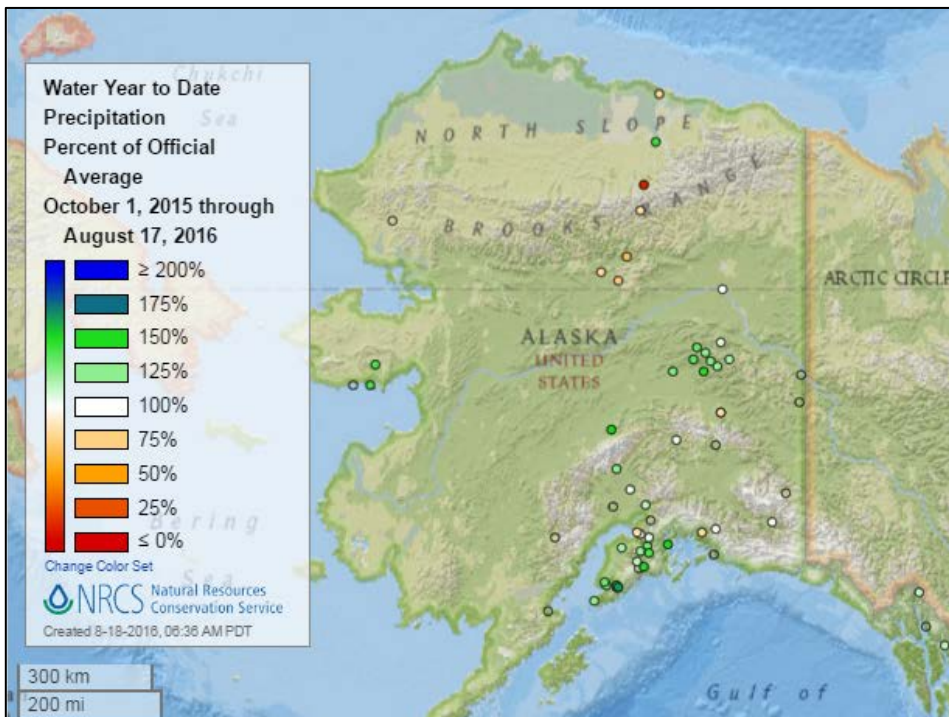
Copyright © 2015, PRISM Climate Group, Oregon State University

Water Year-to-Date, Western Mountain Sites (NRCS SNOTEL Network)



[2016 water year-to-date precipitation percent of average map](#)

See also: [2016 water year-to-date precipitation values \(inches\)](#)



[Alaska 2016 water year-to-date precipitation percent of average map](#)

See also: [Alaska 2016 water year-to-date precipitation values \(inches\) map](#)

Temperature

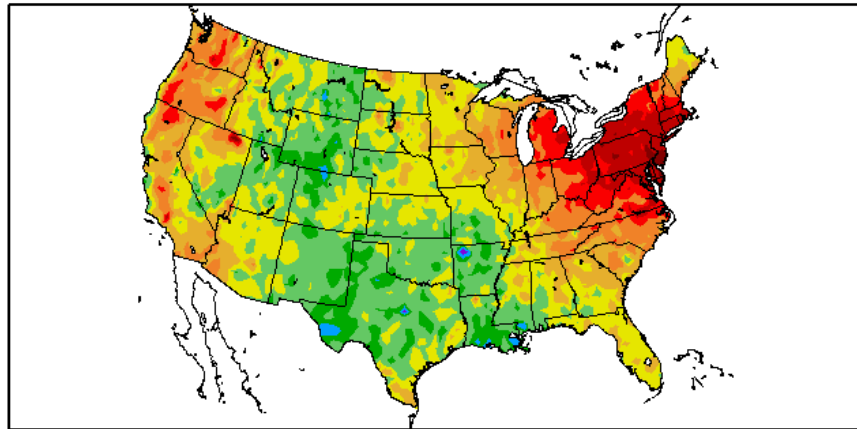
Last 7 Days, National Weather Service (NWS) Networks

Source: Regional Climate Centers

[7-day temperature anomaly map](#) for the continental U.S.

See also: [7-day temperature \(° F\) map](#)

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
8/11/2016 – 8/17/2016



Generated 8/18/2016 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Regional Climate Centers

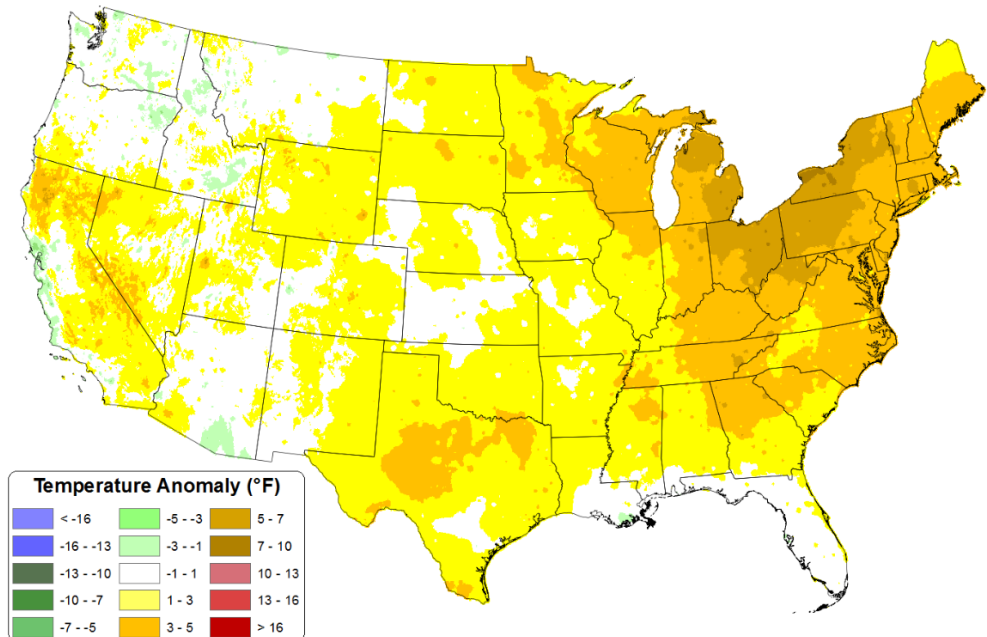
Month-to-Date, All Available Data Including SNOTEL and NWS Networks

Source: PRISM

[Month-to-date national daily mean temperature anomaly map](#)

See also: [Month-to-date national daily mean temperature \(° F\) map](#)

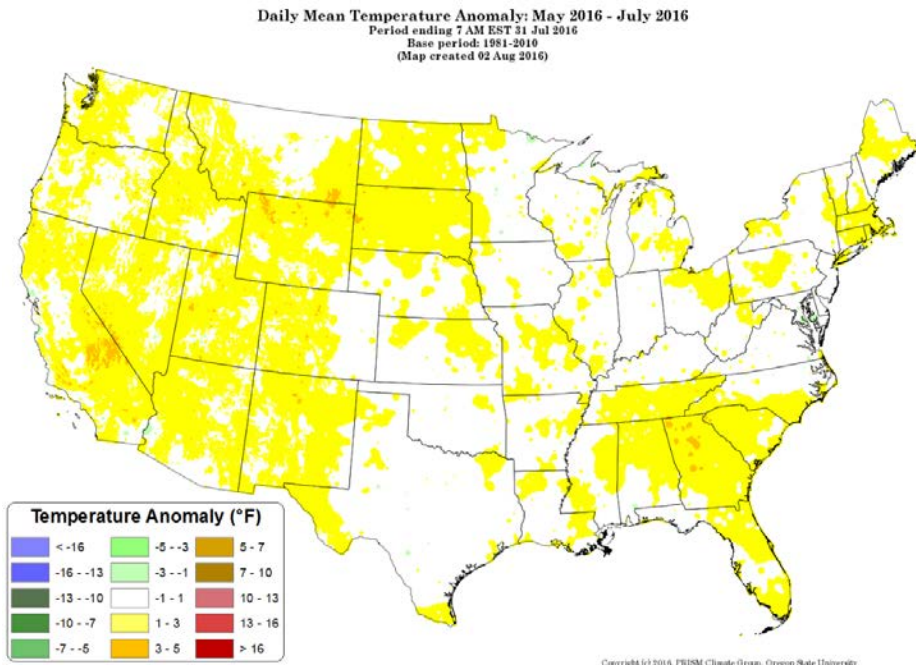
Daily Mean Temperature Anomaly: 01 August 2016 - 16 August 2016
Period ending 7 AM EST 16 Aug 2016
Base period: 1981-2010
(Map created 17 Aug 2016)



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Last 3 Months, All Available Data Including SNOTEL and NWS Networks

Source: PRISM

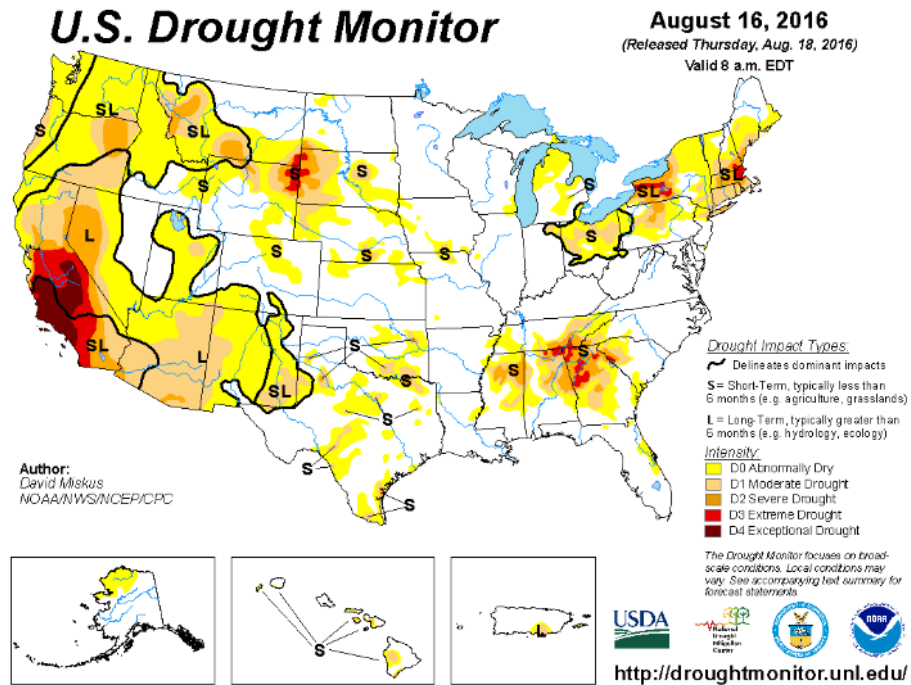


[May through July daily mean temperature anomaly map](#)

Drought

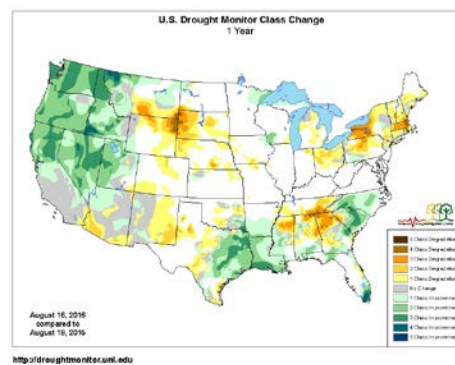
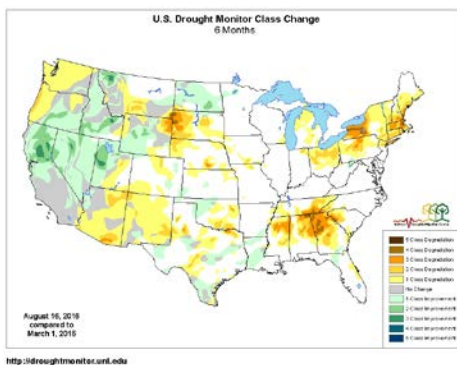
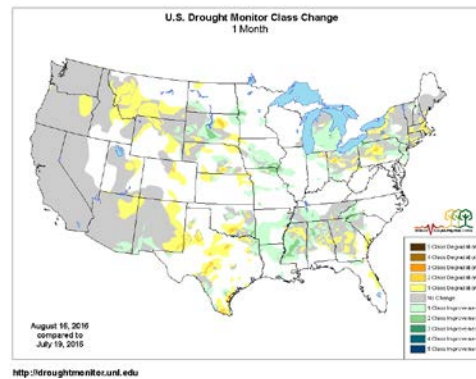
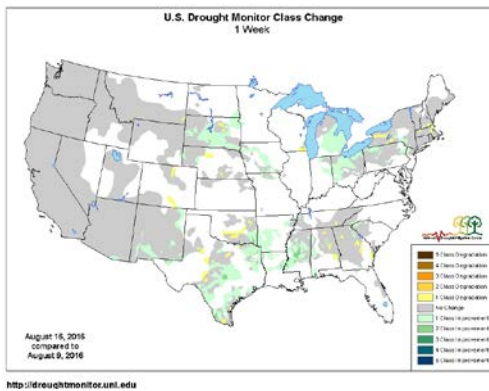
[U.S. Drought Monitor](#) See map below.

[U.S. Drought Portal](#) Comprehensive drought resource.



Changes in Drought Monitor Categories over Time

Click any map to enlarge



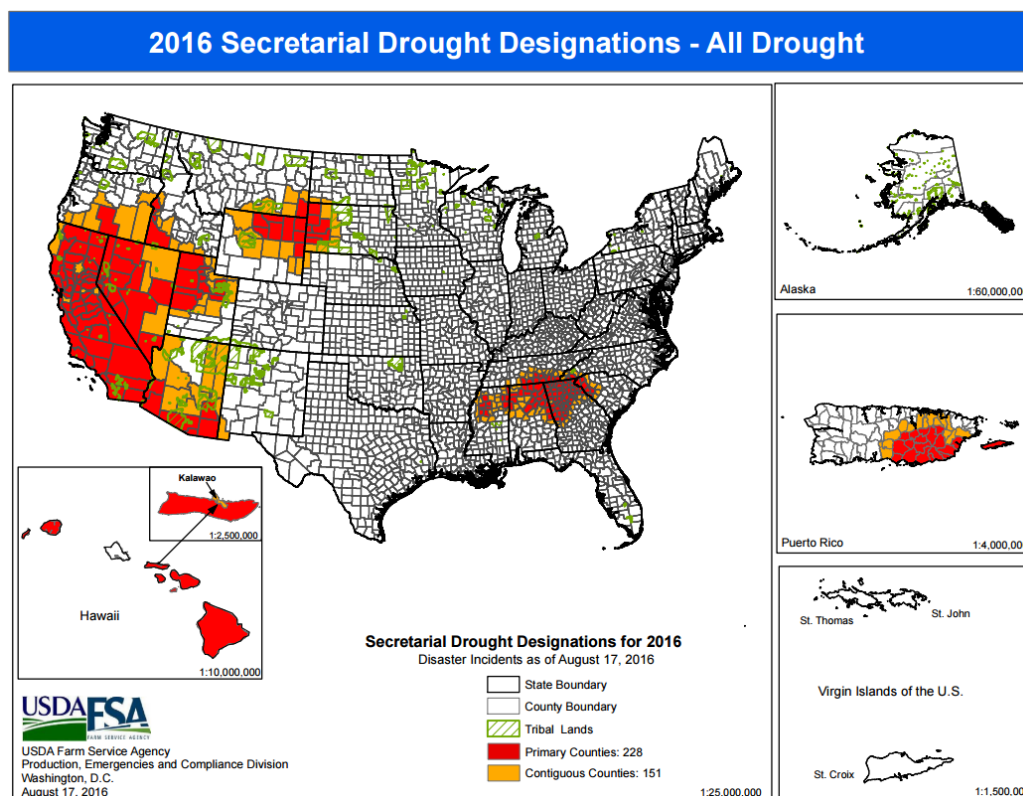
[Changes in drought conditions over the last 12 months](#)

Current National [Drought Summary](#), August 16, 2016

Author: David Miskus, NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC

“A series of slow-moving or stationary cold fronts plus a westward wandering upper-air low along the Gulf Coast produced widespread moderate to heavy (more than 2 inches) rains in portions of the north-central Plains and upper Midwest, much of the Corn Belt, southern Great Plains, Ohio, and lower Mississippi Valley, along the Gulf Coast, and the Northeast. Record flooding occurred in Louisiana where up to 2 feet of rain inundated the southern half of the state, requiring thousands of water rescues and drowning several people. Weekly amounts exceeding 8 inches also fell on southeastern Missouri, southern Illinois, north-central Indiana, and southwestern Lower Michigan. The southwest monsoon was also active, especially in New Mexico and southeastern Arizona where 1-2 inches of rain fell on several locations. Oppressive heat and humidity enveloped the northeastern quarter of the Nation, with weekly temperatures averaging more than 6 deg F above normal. Highs in the nineties were common, with some locations nearing triple-digits, but when combined with dew points in the seventies, apparent temperatures were unbearable to dangerous. In contrast, near to subnormal readings occurred across most of the western half of the U.S. and along the Gulf Coast. Most of Puerto Rico, Alaska, and Hawaii measured light to moderate rainfall, but not enough fell on the drought areas for any improvement.”

USDA 2016 Secretarial [Drought Designations](#)

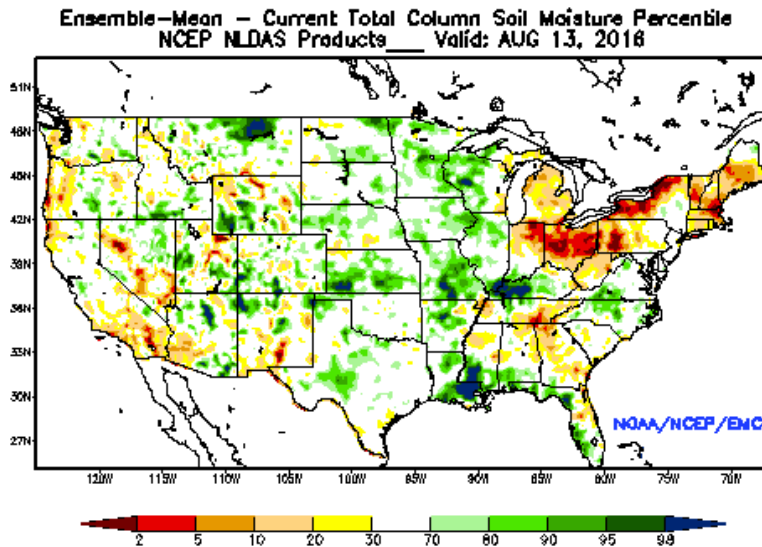


Highlighted Drought Resources

- [Drought Impact Reporter](#)
- [Quarterly Regional Climate Impacts and Outlook](#)
- [U.S. Drought Portal Indicators and Monitoring](#)
- [U.S. Population in Drought, Weekly Comparison](#)
- [USDA Disaster and Drought Information](#)

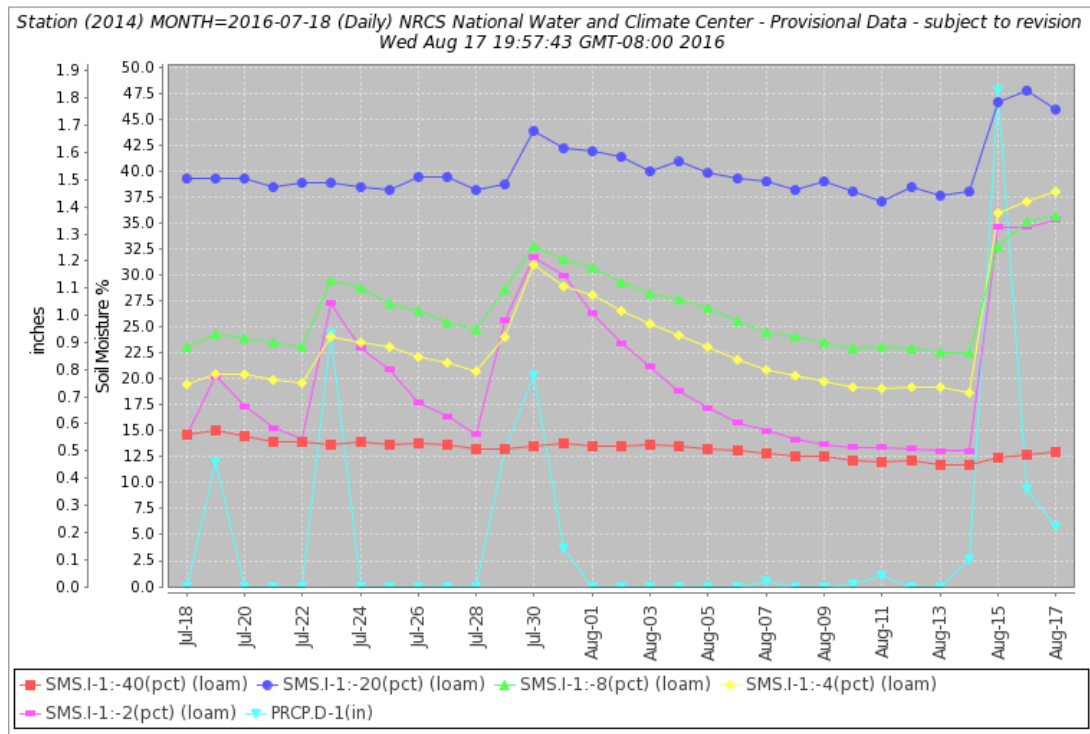
Other Climatic and Water Supply Indicators

Soil Moisture



[Modeled soil moisture percentiles](#) as of August 13, 2016.

Soil Moisture Data: NRCS [Soil Climate Analysis Network \(SCAN\)](#)



Soil moisture (at 2-, 4-, 8-, 20-, and 40-inch depths) and precipitation for the past 30 days at the [Molly Caren #1 SCAN site 2014](#) in Ohio. The precipitation events from late July through mid-August have increased soil moisture at all soil moisture sensor depths, but most dramatically at the 2-, 4-, and 8-inch sensors. All soil sensors show drying between larger events especially from August 1 to 13.

Soil Moisture Data Portals

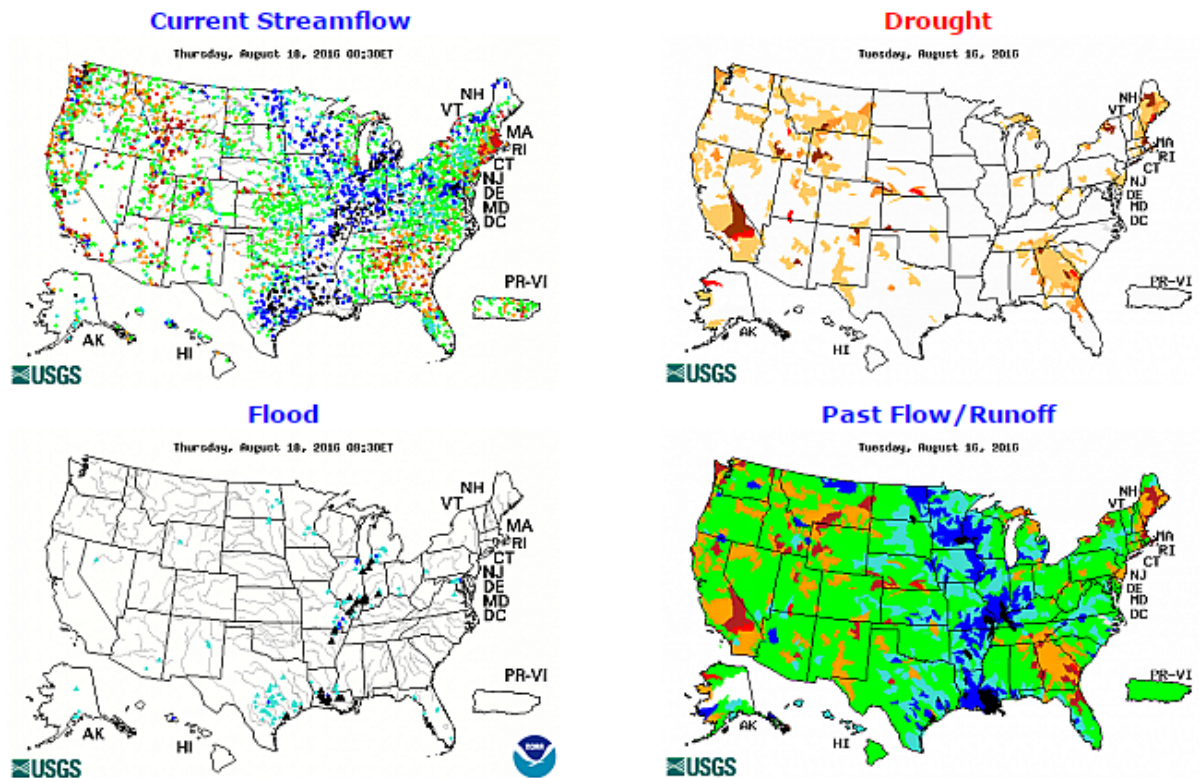
[CRN Soil Moisture](#)

[Texas A&M University North American Soil Moisture Database](#)

[University of Washington Experimental Modeled Soil Moisture](#)

Streamflow

Source: USGS



Click to enlarge and display legends

[Current streamflow maps](#)

Current Reservoir Storage

[National Water and Climate Center Reservoir Data](#)

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Hydromet Tea Cup Reservoir Depictions:

[Upper Colorado](#)

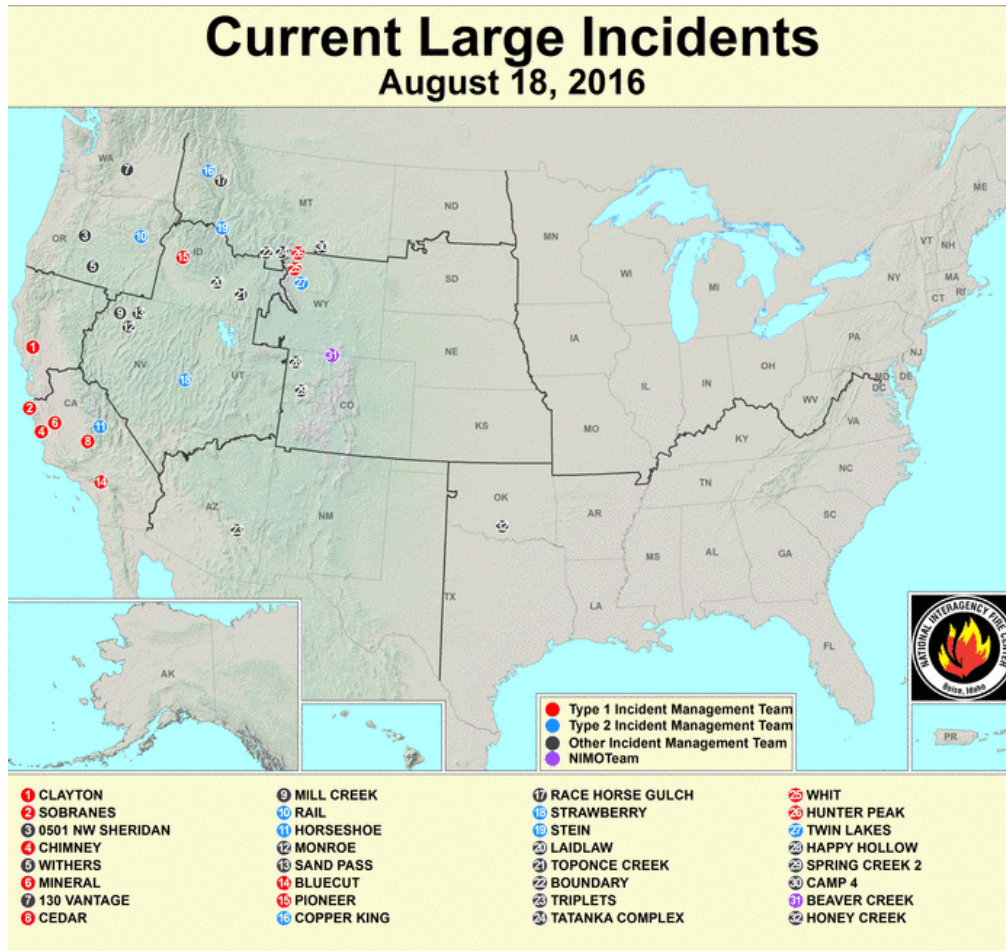
[Pacific Northwest/Snake/Columbia](#)

[Sevier River Water, Utah](#)

[Upper Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas](#)

[California Reservoir Conditions](#)

Wildfires: [USDA Forest Service Active Fire Mapping](#)



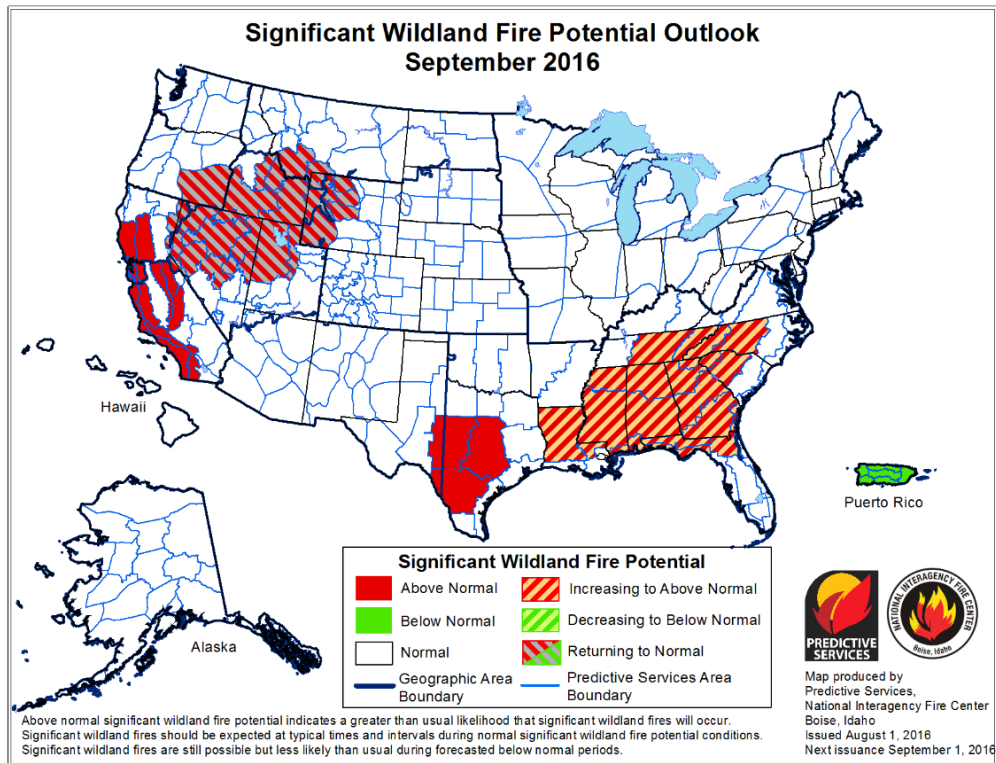
Short- and Long-Range Outlooks

Agricultural Weather Highlights

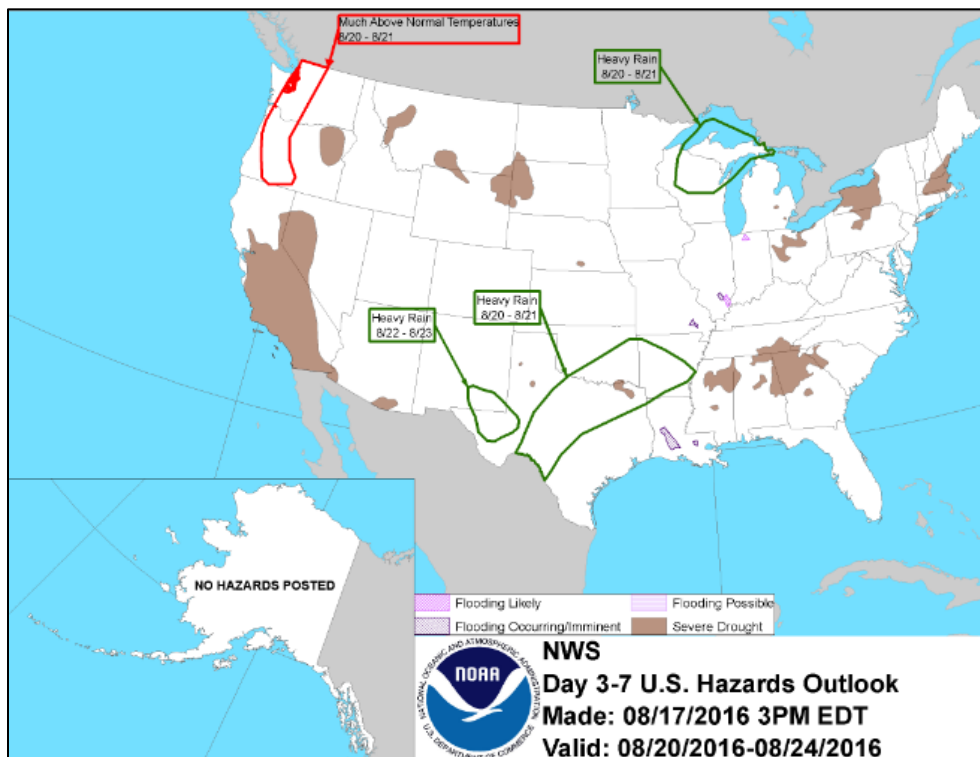
Author: Brad Rippey, Agricultural Meteorologist, USDA/OCE/WAOB

[National Outlook, August 17, 2016](#): “In many areas from the Rockies to the East Coast, a very active weather pattern will continue through the weekend. In much of the central and eastern U.S., 5-day rainfall totals could reach 1 to 3 inches, with locally higher amounts in thunderstorms. In contrast, hot, dry weather will persist in the Far West. Meanwhile, a significant surge of cool air will reach the northern High Plains on Thursday and overspread the remainder of the nation’s midsection during the weekend. Scattered, late-week temperatures could dip below 40°F on the northern High Plains. Elsewhere, hot, humid weather will persist for several more days in the eastern U.S. The NWS 6- to 10-day outlook for August 22 – 26 calls for the likelihood of below-normal temperatures in most areas from the Rockies to the Appalachians, while hotter-than-normal conditions will prevail in the Far West and along the Atlantic Seaboard. Meanwhile, near- to below-normal rainfall across much of the country will contrast with wetter-than-normal weather in the northern Atlantic States and the central and southern Plains.”

Fire Potential Outlook: [September 2016](#)

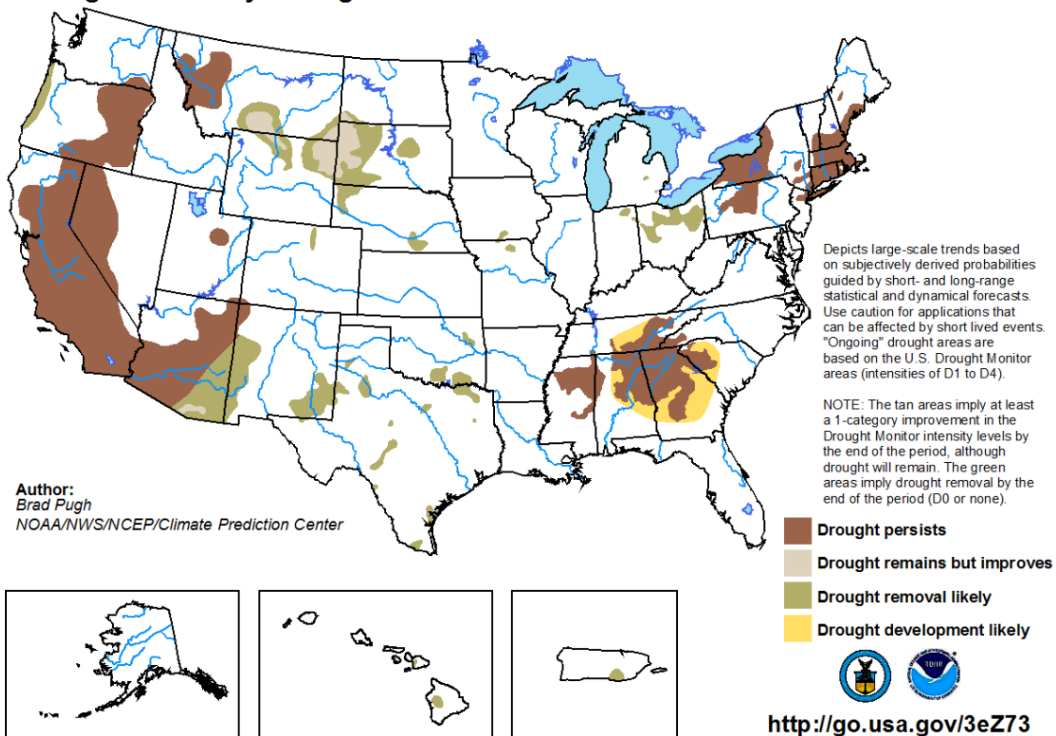


NWS Climate Prediction Center [Weather Hazard Outlook: August 20 - 24, 2016](#)



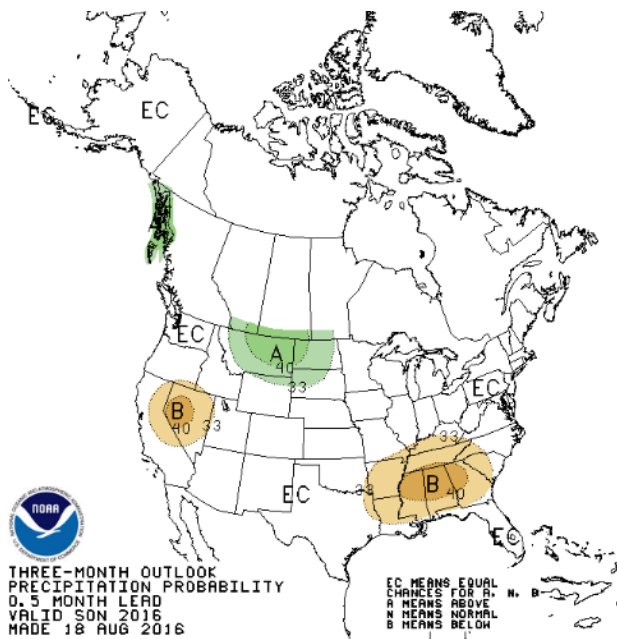
Seasonal Drought Outlook: [August 18 – November 30, 2016](#)

U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook Valid for August 18 - November 30, 2016
Drought Tendency During the Valid Period Released August 18, 2016



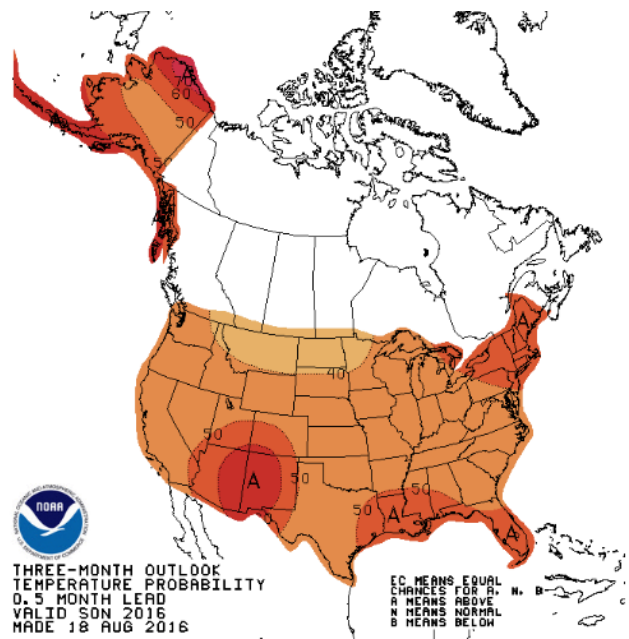
NWS Climate Prediction Center 3-Month Outlook

[Precipitation](#)



[September-October-November \(SON\) 2016
precipitation outlook summary](#)

[Temperature](#)



[September-October-November \(SON\) 2016
temperature outlook summary](#)

More Information

The NRCS [National Water and Climate Center](#) publishes this weekly report. We welcome your feedback. If you have questions or comments, please [contact us](#).